



HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HFD EMS HOLDS REUNION WITH CARDIAC ARREST SURVIVOR *TODAY*

WHAT : HFD EMS will hold a reunion with cardiac arrest survivor John Abbott, members of the family, and HFD crewmembers and individuals who helped him survive.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m., TODAY, September 14, 2005

WHERE: HFD Station 16, 1700 Richmond at Dunlavy intersection, Key Map 492Z

DETAILS: John Abbott was mowing the grass about 6:00 p.m., July 12, 2005 at his family's church in the Rice University area when he had a cardiac arrest. The last thing Abbott remembers is leaning over his lawnmower a couple of times to catch his breath and feeling a little tired. The self-propelled mower continued moving until it eventually hit a stop sign at the intersection of Rice and Sunset Blvd. It just so happened that Dr. Craig P. Fischer was driving by on his way home when the lawnmower caught his eye. Realizing something was awry Fischer, looked around and saw Abbott prone on the lawn. Fischer called 9-1-1 and began CPR. Rice University Police assisted Fischer. HFD emergency crews arrived and continued CPR and advanced life support. Abbott was transported to a local hospital breathing on his own.

Abbott, 37, is married to Vickie McTague Abbott. John and Vickie Abbott are parents of two boys, ages 5 and 7. The family resides in Bellaire. Abbott owns and operates an energy management company. Richard McTague, a retired HFD captain with 31 years of experience, is John Abbott's father in law. McTague, several family members, and friends will attend the reunion.

